



LORD OF THE FLIES

WILLIAM GOLDING
BOOKASSIGNMENT 3

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INTRODUCTION

We are reading three books for English this year. These books are 'tested' in various ways. On the first book we made a test about the elements of fiction. For the second book, we had to submit an outline of an essay and a story map about the elements of fiction. And now, for the third book, we have to write a full essay. For this assignment I read the book 'Lord of the Flies' by William Golding.

There are a few sources I have used for this assignment. At the end of this document there is a list of all the sources I used for each part.

This is the link to the page about this assignment on my website:

<https://maasvermeulen.wordpress.com/bookassignment-3-engels/>

*“The greatest ideas
are the simplest.”*

- William Golding

ESSAY

THE BEST LEADER



If you were stranded on an island with a group of strangers, what would you do to survive? In William Golding's book 'The Lord of the Flies' this happens to a group of young people. They democratically elect a leader, but this decision is not respected by everyone and a power struggle erupts between two youths, Jack and Ralph, on the island. I have a firm opinion about who is the better leader and so my thesis statement is that Ralph is the best leader on the island.

First, Ralph is chosen as leader by the group. In fact, it would have made more sense if the group had chosen Jack, as he already had experience leading a group.

"I ought to be chief... because I'm captain chorister and head boy. I can sing C sharp."

- Jack, page 28.

The fact that Ralph was chosen shows that the group had more faith in him than they had in Jack. The confidence that the group has in him is due to his appearance and his calmness. In addition, he was the first to blow the 'conch', after which everyone gathered together. If you

can get everyone together - without showing power or raising your voice for example, it shows that you are a natural leader and that the group is behind you. Moreover, Ralph is the oldest of the group. The majority of the group consists of young children and they consider age important in the choice of their leader.

Second, I think it was a good decision Ralph wanted to keep the fire going. After all, the fire was the only way they could ever be rescued from the island. Jack thought hunting and eating meat was more important and decided not to put any more effort into the fire.

"Don't you want to be rescued? All you can talk about is pig, pig, pig!"

- Ralph, page 61

One day Jack let the fire go out and Ralph reacted furiously. They could have been rescued, because just as the fire was out, a boat sailed past the island. Even though Jack thought it was useless to keep the fire burning, Ralph kept the fire going. He kept going in times of need and doubt, which also shows that he is a strong leader.

"The fire's the most important thing. Without the fire, we can't be rescued. I'd like to put on war-paint and be a savage. But we must keep the fire burning. The fire's the most important thing on the island."

- Ralph, page 145.

Finally, Ralph is a good leader because he brings calmness and peace. He is very organized and makes sure that everyone knows what their task is. He is also the one who has established rules on the island, which create clarity and peace on the island.

Jack is a much more aggressive leader than Ralph. I think it is good to have a leader who is not as arrogant as Jack and who does not yell at everyone when he wants. This quote shows that Ralph wants to play by the rules, but Jack does not care about them:

"The rules!" shouted Ralph, "you're breaking the rules!"

"Who cares?"

- Ralph en Jack, page 99

In conclusion, Ralph is the better leader of the two in my opinion, because he was democratically elected by the group, he insisted on keeping the fire going and he kept the peace and quiet (for a long time).

SOURCES

Sparknotes

Publication date is unknown

Lord of the flies - Full book summary

Retrieved on May 13 2022

[URL](#)

Sparknotes

Publication date is unknown

Lord of the flies - Character List

Retrieved on May 10 2022

[URL](#)

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'Lord of the Flies' Summary

Retrieved on May 13 2022

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CliffsNotes

Publication date is unknown

Lord of the Flies - William Golding - Book Summary

Retrieved on May 21 2022

[URL](#)